



STATISTICS DEPARTMENT
Special Projects Section
(202) 682-8492/682-8518

Report Month: MARCH 1986

REPORT ON WELL COMPLETIONS IN THE UNITED STATES¹

Wells actually completed in the current month may not be reported until several months later. The chart shown below illustrates the cumulative number of well completions for the current month and each of the eleven prior months, as now reported to the API. For comparison purposes, a corresponding curve describes the data, as then reported to the API, for the same twelve-month

period a year ago.

These data are preliminary and subject to revision. The number of wells shown in the chart excludes stratigraphic and core tests and service wells. The geographic distribution for wells and footage is not published on a monthly basis, but is available from the API's "Quarterly Completion Report."

Cumulative Number of Wells Reported as Completed
For Each of the Past 12 Months

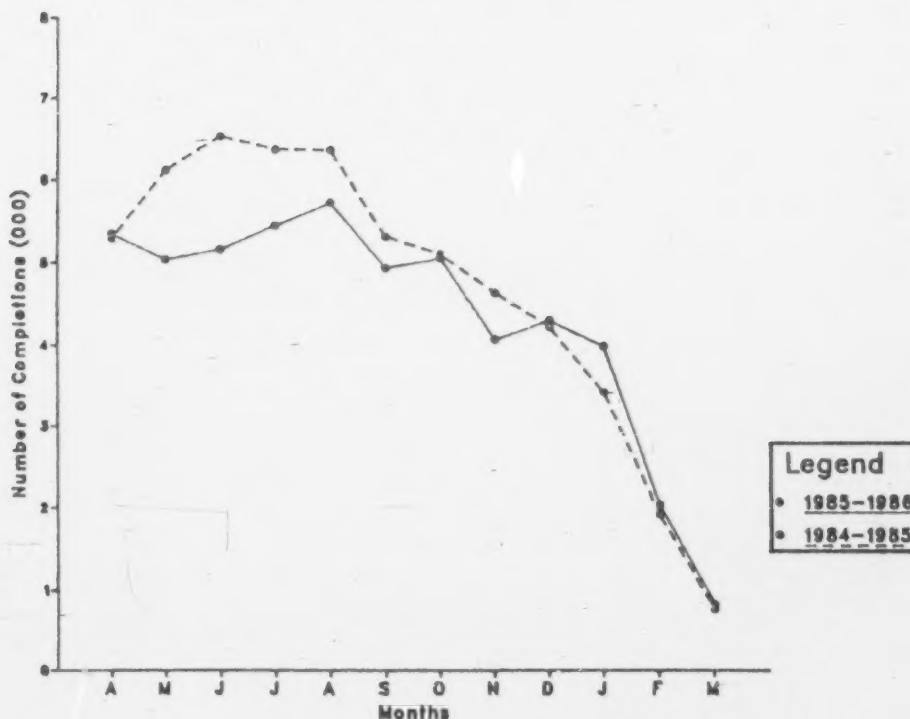


TABLE I: CUMULATIVE NUMBER OF TOTAL WELLS AND FOOTAGE DRILLED IN THE UNITED STATES
BY COMPLETION MONTH AND YEAR, AS OF MARCH 31, 1986¹

	OIL WELLS ²		GAS WELLS ³		DRY HOLES		TOTAL OIL & GAS & DRY HOLES		TOTAL ALL WELLS ⁴	
	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE
TOTAL 1986	3,585	14,280,271	777	4,563,299	2,467	13,615,915	6,829	32,459,485	6,897	32,663,001
1986: MAR	335	1,247,043	63	358,495	427	2,281,836	825	3,887,374	831	3,893,956
FEB	1,119	4,698,451	200	1,245,265	708	4,130,959	2,027	10,072,675	2,043	10,117,935
JAN	2,131	8,336,777	514	2,959,539	1,332	7,203,120	3,977	18,499,436	4,023	18,651,110
TOTAL 1985	30,799	125,515,575	12,381	67,184,733	19,011	95,879,593	62,191	288,579,901	63,497	292,963,125
1985: DEC	2,147	9,042,739	651	3,641,822	1,497	7,890,387	4,295	20,574,948	4,345	20,757,662
NOV	2,026	8,384,127	722	3,965,445	1,318	6,687,554	4,066	19,037,126	4,123	19,251,310
OCT	2,450	10,155,578	1,066	5,410,778	1,530	7,574,367	5,046	23,140,723	5,121	23,393,833
SEP	2,382	9,435,558	1,004	5,272,162	1,542	7,688,860	4,928	22,396,580	5,006	22,612,688
AUG	2,856	11,187,211	1,117	5,956,973	1,751	8,425,869	5,724	25,570,053	5,806	25,818,054
JUL	2,684	10,298,336	1,113	5,976,081	1,649	7,870,140	5,446	24,144,557	5,569	24,517,485
JUN	2,575	10,217,459	1,052	5,528,492	1,530	7,346,688	5,157	23,092,639	5,272	23,507,536
MAY	2,543	10,757,017	944	5,232,725	1,547	7,833,991	5,034	23,823,733	5,179	24,354,255
APR	2,709	11,034,346	1,021	5,809,092	1,612	8,160,420	5,342	25,003,858	5,469	25,386,637
MAR	2,914	12,134,113	1,187	6,590,275	1,728	8,644,883	5,829	27,369,271	5,987	27,846,061
FEB	2,520	10,658,377	1,195	6,621,042	1,440	7,647,664	5,155	24,927,083	5,283	25,356,668
JAN	2,993	12,210,714	1,309	7,179,846	1,867	10,108,770	6,169	29,499,330	6,337	30,160,936
TOTAL 1984	40,835	156,667,306	16,134	86,164,460	24,278	115,957,809	81,247	358,789,575	83,334	364,331,697
1984: DEC	3,282	12,291,020	1,462	7,415,272	2,015	10,305,010	6,759	30,011,302	6,937	30,469,652
NOV	3,400	12,783,538	1,574	7,760,920	1,937	9,551,714	6,911	30,096,172	7,075	30,560,273
OCT	3,448	13,734,623	1,502	7,910,299	1,998	9,480,587	6,948	31,125,489	7,173	31,775,907
SEP	3,387	12,536,567	1,349	7,025,821	2,003	9,312,919	6,739	28,875,307	6,875	29,240,000
AUG	3,617	13,355,446	1,517	7,948,002	2,437	11,004,059	7,571	32,307,507	7,759	32,872,362
JUL	3,675	13,837,723	1,354	7,401,249	2,226	10,101,016	7,255	31,339,988	7,432	31,816,090
JUN	3,633	13,428,192	1,406	7,328,212	2,277	10,296,657	7,316	31,053,061	7,494	31,504,554
MAY	3,502	13,505,344	1,278	7,049,157	1,910	9,253,935	6,690	29,808,436	6,853	30,199,084
APR	3,073	11,610,162	959	5,697,264	1,676	8,290,439	5,708	25,597,865	5,897	26,038,519
MAR	3,265	13,139,134	1,107	6,686,863	1,756	8,780,995	6,128	28,606,992	6,302	29,034,253
FEB	3,205	12,789,465	1,271	6,706,078	1,779	8,796,367	6,255	28,291,910	6,410	28,725,939
JAN	3,348	13,656,092	1,355	7,235,323	2,264	10,784,131	6,967	31,675,546	7,127	32,095,064
TOTAL 1983	36,108	133,879,328	14,076	75,072,992	23,208	102,292,424	73,392	311,244,744	75,385	315,948,322
TOTAL 1982	38,438	146,695,495	18,617	104,599,252	25,620	121,452,155	82,675	372,746,902	84,890	378,014,498

See footnotes on page 5.

TABLE II: CUMULATIVE NUMBER OF EXPLORATORY WELLS AND FOOTAGE DRILLED IN THE UNITED STATES
BY COMPLETION MONTH AND YEAR, AS OF MARCH 31, 1986¹

	OIL WELLS ²		GAS WELLS ³		DRY HOLES		TOTAL OIL & GAS & DRY HOLES	
	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE
TOTAL 1985	220	1,297,206	61	369,860	1,199	7,390,967	1,480	9,058,033
1986: MAR	17	110,589	5	39,884	219	1,296,602	241	1,447,075
FEB	65	394,153	17	93,424	352	2,302,787	434	2,790,364
JAN	138	792,464	39	236,552	628	3,791,578	805	4,820,594
TOTAL 1985	1,649	9,651,895	1,130	7,443,414	8,435	47,153,139	11,214	64,248,448
1985: DEC	122	749,951	58	381,089	742	4,282,660	922	5,413,700
NOV	92	550,687	61	420,785	610	3,379,556	763	4,351,028
OCT	133	734,121	73	387,681	691	3,747,832	897	4,869,634
SEP	111	597,492	66	432,388	700	3,760,760	877	4,790,640
AUG	163	962,995	89	576,738	766	4,091,567	1,018	5,631,300
JUL	131	760,300	79	499,602	712	3,770,993	922	5,030,895
JUN	114	606,218	111	789,062	642	3,313,004	867	4,708,284
MAY	147	865,957	121	767,181	650	3,659,237	918	5,292,375
APR	126	695,162	111	757,778	685	3,946,906	922	5,399,846
MAR	174	1,059,385	104	670,764	722	4,116,687	1,000	5,846,836
FEB	162	1,019,788	118	817,619	673	4,019,937	953	5,857,344
JAN	174	1,049,839	139	942,727	842	5,064,000	1,155	7,056,566
TOTAL 1984	2,281	12,405,615	1,563	9,779,258	10,824	57,632,752	14,668	79,817,625
1984: DEC	149	769,902	106	573,022	928	5,395,718	1,183	6,738,642
NOV	177	982,975	110	652,122	839	4,685,122	1,126	6,320,220
OCT	158	822,765	140	896,522	936	4,779,440	1,234	6,498,727
SEP	213	1,161,255	128	867,610	880	4,522,290	1,221	6,551,155
AUG	184	988,748	125	805,559	1,046	5,469,214	1,355	7,263,521
JUL	188	986,135	149	981,766	1,046	5,183,559	1,383	7,151,460
JUN	196	1,103,842	133	767,186	1,050	5,268,119	1,379	7,139,147
MAY	211	1,160,735	135	828,817	827	4,520,968	1,173	6,510,520
APR	154	898,020	99	677,072	747	4,031,274	1,000	5,606,366
MAR	214	1,193,813	152	1,033,489	733	4,127,690	1,099	6,354,992
FEB	204	1,155,382	152	897,159	798	4,411,184	1,154	6,463,725
JAN	233	1,182,042	134	798,934	994	5,238,174	1,361	7,219,150
TOTAL 1983	2,106	10,524,349	1,638	10,176,417	9,964	48,174,251	13,708	68,875,017
TOTAL 1982	2,457	13,392,338	2,152	14,667,710	11,192	60,193,746	15,801	88,253,794

See footnotes on page 5.

TABLE III: TOTAL NUMBER OF WELLS AND FOOTAGE ADDITIONS¹ BY COMPLETION MONTH AND YEAR
REPORTED TO THE API DURING MARCH 1986

	OIL WELLS ²		GAS WELLS ³		DRY HOLES		TOTAL OIL & GAS AND DRY HOLES		TOTAL WELLS REPORTED ⁴ CURRENT MONTH	
	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE	WELLS	FOOTAGE
TOTAL 1986	1,751	7,731,112	402	2,353,629	967	5,209,512	3,120	15,294,253	3,168	15,451,836
1986: MAR	335	1,247,043	63	358,495	427	2,281,836	825	3,887,374	831	3,893,956
FEB	750	3,412,725	153	974,146	302	1,720,057	1,205	6,106,928	1,218	6,148,645
JAN	666	3,071,344	186	1,020,988	238	1,207,619	1,090	5,299,951	1,119	5,409,235
TOTAL 1985	711	2,901,990	495	2,700,220	390	1,685,559	1,596	7,287,769	1,650	7,471,280
1985: DEC	280	1,359,625	139	806,309	130	568,149	549	2,734,083	564	2,792,941
NOV	135	598,686	86	467,139	77	383,484	298	1,449,309	310	1,498,140
OCT	84	310,149	77	390,560	42	183,213	203	883,922	214	932,793
SEP	67	229,710	61	288,367	30	116,280	158	634,357	160	641,537
AUG	34	121,603	47	283,506	25	117,394	106	522,503	106	522,503
JUL	16	59,144	27	142,503	18	65,612	61	267,259	66	276,034
JUN	20	64,687	11	74,120	12	68,681	43	207,488	44	208,073
MAY	16	42,677	14	92,991	13	36,710	43	172,378	43	172,378
APR	21	37,826	6	41,948	15	58,184	42	137,958	45	140,418
MAR	16	44,453	11	44,339	11	50,005	38	138,797	42	145,498
FEB	12	19,458	13	54,232	12	23,208	37	96,898	38	98,148
JAN	10	13,972	3	14,206	5	14,639	18	42,817	18	42,817
TOTAL 1984	122	326,441	67	331,022	57	131,283	246	788,746	260	828,709
1984: DEC	9	32,677	8	50,825	12	28,714	29	112,216	30	112,254
NOV	8	14,823	11	47,888	3	16,370	22	79,081	24	80,881
OCT	17	35,517	8	35,555	6	5,792	31	76,864	32	79,481
SEP	19	42,801	5	32,931	3	4,236	27	79,968	27	79,968
AUG	11	32,134	8	28,261	6	13,190	25	73,585	27	88,288
JUL	11	21,729	4	21,749	2	5,576	17	49,054	17	49,054
JUN	13	27,674	5	9,615	7	28,065	25	65,354	25	65,354
MAY	7	23,419	2	4,791	3	8,236	12	36,446	12	36,446
APR	7	16,767	5	27,603	4	7,944	16	52,314	16	52,314
MAR	9	26,779	5	53,010	5	7,240	19	87,029	20	87,702
FEB	7	39,411	1	4,725	4	3,227	12	47,363	18	64,670
JAN	4	12,710	5	14,069	2	2,693	11	29,472	12	32,297
TOTAL 1983	38	74,238	16	70,761	35	69,635	91	214,634	94	217,055
VRS PRIOR TO 1983	12	24,274	8	19,509	11	21,552	31	65,335	31	65,335
TOTAL WELLS REPORTED ⁵	2,634	11,058,055	990	5,475,141	1,460	7,117,541	5,084	23,650,737	5,203	24,034,215

See footnotes on page 5.

TABLE I AND TABLE II:

1. The cumulative number of wells reported in this table is the total number of wells included in the API database for each of the months and years shown, as of March 31, 1986. These data are preliminary and subject to further revisions.
2. Includes multiple completion wells which produce oil from at least one zone, but may produce gas from one or more zones. A multiple completion well is counted as one well.
3. Includes multiple completion wells which produce gas from all zones. A multiple completion well is counted as one well. Gas wells also include so-called condensate wells.
4. Includes stratigraphic and core tests and service wells. (Not applicable to Table II.)

TABLE III:

1. Total number of wells received by the API during the report month and classified by completion month and year. These wells are included in Tables I and II.
2. See footnote (2) above.
3. See footnote (3) above.
4. Includes stratigraphic and core tests and service wells.
5. Total wells reported are those received by the API for the report period March 1, 1986 through March 31, 1986. The sub-totals shown for each yearly period may not add up to the total wells reported for the period. Some wells, received during the report period, may have been completed in years prior to those shown in Table III.